GREAT HARWOOD.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Inspector of Nuisances.

1913.

CLOUGH BROS., TYPS., GREAT HARWOOD

St. Hubert's Lodge,

Great Harwood,

23rd February, 1914.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Great Harwood Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your district, along with the returns of Births and Deaths for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1913, together with Local Government Board Forms 1, 2, 3 & 4, and Form C, for the Lancashire County Council.

Great Harwood is situate in a somewhat hilly district in North-East Lancashire, about 5 miles North-East of Blackburn, and is in the Darwen Parliamentary Division.

The principal industry is the manufacture of cotton goods, in which a large percentage of the inhabitants are engaged.

The following streams form the boundaries on three sides of the district :—the River Hyndburn (which discharges into the River Calder) on the East side, the Dean Brook lies on the North side, and on the South side the Norden Brook.

Considering this is a manufacturing district, these streams are comparatively free from pollution.

The land on which the Town is built slopes in a South-Easterly direction, and this allows a good share of the suns rays, besides rendering great aid in its rapid and complete drainage.

The houses are of an up-to-date type, and constructed chiefly of stone and good bricks.

The District covers an area of 2868 statute acres, and the population at the last census was 13,815. In 1880 the population was 6,281.

Within its boundaries the Dean Clough Reservoir is situated, the owners being the Accrington District Gas & Water Board, and from this source the town obtains its water supply.

This consists chiefly of upland surface water gathered from the surrounding hills.

The reservoir is situated well out of the town, and is protected from all sources of pollution.

During the year we have had 1158 hrs. 43 mins. Sunshine, and 44·18 inches of rain.

Monthly Summary of Sunshine and Rainfall in the District during the year 1913 :—

		Hours.	Mins.			Inches.
January	...	17	55	...	...	4·88
February	...	53	25	...	...	1·88
March	...	91	55	...	...	5·71
April	...	93	20	...	...	5·64
May	...	141	0	...	...	4·72
June	...	148	35	...	...	2·78
July	...	161	55	...	...	2·21
August	..	170	40	...	...	2·50
September	...	120	40	..	...	1·77
October	...	85	28	...	...	2·28
November	...	45	25	...	...	5·68
December	...	28	35	...	...	4·13
		1,158	43			44·18

The inhabitants of the district are of a thrifty and industrious class, and as I have previously stated are chiefly engaged (both male and female) in the Cotton Mills.

During the year 267 Births have been registered, viz :—129 Boys and 138 Girls. Estimating the population at 14,000, this gives a yearly Birth-rate of 19 per 1000 of the inhabitants.

The Birth-rate for 1912 was 21·9, and for the five previous years 19·8.

With regard to Vaccination and Smallpox, out of the 267 births registered, it is a lamentable fact that 156 persons have obtained exemptions from vaccination.

20 children have died, 3 have been postponed, 5 are said to be insusceptible to vaccination, and 20 remain unaccounted for.

The number of exemptions are greatly increasing year by year, and I very much fear that at some future time, if we should unfortunately have a case of Smallpox, it would readily become epidemic, as so many persons will be unprotected by vaccination, and they would easily be susceptible to the infection.

The deaths during the year numbered 169, viz :—77 males and 92 females. This gives an annual deathrate of 12 per 1000 of the population.

16 of these deaths occurred outside your district, leaving 153 or 10·92 actually occurring in Great Harwood.

The deathrate for 1912 was 11 per 1000, and for the five previous years 11·25.

The ages at which death occurred were :—

Under 1 year of age	26
Between 1 and 2 years of age	6
,, 2 ,, 5 ,, ...	6
,, 5 ,, 15 ,, ...	6
,, 15 ,, 25 ,, ...	6
,, 25 ,, 45 ,, ...	20
,, 45 ,, 65 ,, ...	49
65 years of age and over	50
Total ...	169

The deathrate amongst children under one year of age per 1000 births was 97·37, compared with 52·11 during 1912, and for the five previous years 99.73.

Although the rate for 1913 is higher than the rate for 1912, it is still very satisfactory, and the increase can be partially accounted for by the birth of triplets which were weakly children, and died, as well as a case of twins which succumbed under similar circumstances.

The causes of death in children under one year of age were :

Bronchitis	2
Pneumonia	3
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	2
Meningitis	2
Insufficient Vitality	4
Premature Birth	8
Marasmus	1
Tuberculous Diseases	2
Other causes	2
Total ...	26

The causes of death at all ages were :

Various Diseases of the Respiratory Organs	35
Diseases of Heart	17
Phthisis and other Tuberculous Diseases	14
Various Cancerous Diseases	13
Diarrhœa & Enteritis	4
Premature Birth	8
Appendicitis	2
Influenza	3
Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	2
Puerperal Fever	1
Meningitis	5
Bright's Disease	3
Alcoholism	1
Cerebral Hœmorrhage and Apoplexy	10
Hemiphlegia	3
Senile Decay	14
Hernia	2
Accidents	2
Other causes not necessary to particularise	29
Total ...	169

38 persons have died who were over 70 years of age, one of whom had reached the advanced age of 90, and one each 81, 83, 84, 87, 88 and 89 years respectively.

During the year the following cases of Zymotic diseases have been notified to me, viz :—Pulmonary Tuberculosis 15, other Tuberculous Diseases 2, Scarlet Fever 35, Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup 12, Enteric Fever 2, Erysipelas 5, and Puerperal Fever 1.—Total 72.

From the above causes 18 deaths have occurred, viz :—9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 5 other Tuberculous Diseases, 2 Diphtheria, 1 Scarlet Fever, and 1 Puerperal Fever.

The Zymotic deathrate for the year is 1·28 per 1000, against a deathrate of 1·21 in 1912, and 0·14 in 1911.

Whenever an infectious disease is notified, the house is visited, disinfectants supplied, verbal and printed instructions given with regard to isolation and prevention of the spread of the disease, and if possible the source of origin traced. After each case, disinfection of the room, bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out. 62 cases were so treated during the year.

In cases of Tuberculosis the same action is taken, and a copy of the instructions issued by the Local Government Board supplied, but the removal of a patient to a Sanatorium is vested in the County Council, 5 patients have been removed to sanatoria during the year from this district.

The arrangements made with the Accrington Corporation whereby infected bedding, clothing, etc., can be conveyed and disinfected at their disinfecting station are still in operation.

As a preventative of Diarrhœa, etc., during the summer the following handbill was printed and distributed throughout the district :—

"A word of warning might be given to the inhabitants, as Diarrhœa or English Cholera is very apt to make its appearance at this season. Free ventilation of dwellings, clean back-yards, frequent flushing of drains and gulleys, and thorough cleansing and lime-washing of rooms is absolutely essential. It is of the utmost importance that milk and other articles of food should be protected from flies, etc., as these insects are dangerous carriers of disease. Fine pieces of muslin might be used for this purpose. The residents ought to be careful with regard to their diet, and should refrain from eating over or under-ripe fruit or other food of an indigestible nature."

Many sanitary improvements have been carried out during the year, 10 earthenware privies have been abolished, and 31 fresh water closets have been fixed.

The following is a statement of the closet accommodation in the district :—

Pail Closets (out-districts)	...	...	36
Earthenware Tanks ...	...	...	120
Fresh Water Closets ...	...	...	381
Waste Water Closets ..	...	...	2663
	Total	...	3200

The sewage undergoes treatment by continuous precipitation and irrigation at the Clayton-le-Moors and Great Harwood Joint Outfall Sewage Works. A scheme for extension of the works is now under consideration. The estimated outlay being about £15,000.

The removal of nightsoil, etc., and the scavenging of the town has been efficiently carried out under the supervision of your Inspector of Nuisances, &c.

The Factories and Workshops have on inspection been found to be in a satisfactory state. 9 notices have been served for Lime-washing, etc., during the year.

The registered Lodging House in Delph Road (for men only) has been periodically visited and generally found in a satisfactory state.

The food exposed for sale on the Public Market, and in the shops has been frequently examined and always found to be sound and wholesome.

We have only two Slaughterhouses in the town, a public one belonging to the Council, and the other one owned by the Great Harwood Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd., both are under the constant supervision of myself and the Inspector of Nuisances.

The butchers are of a respectable class and very careful in the selection of cattle for slaughter, although 7 carcases have been found on inspection to be more or less tuberculous, 3 of which were wholly rejected along with the hind quarter of another one, and the same were seized and destroyed under the supervision of your Inspector of Nuisances.

Two milk cows which were suffering from "Tuberculosis with Emaciation", have been removed from the district and destroyed by the action of the County authority.

The sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory, and disinfectants are supplied to the caretakers for the purpose of cleaning floors, flushing the closets, drains, etc.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been found on inspection to be kept in a cleanly state. Two Cowsheds were found on inspection to be deficient in light and ventilation, and the owner has been notified to remedy the defects.

The milk supply is excellent, being particularly wholesome, free from adulteration, and kept and distributed under cleanly conditions.

The Tripe Boiling Works which are the property of the Council are frequently inspected, and are kept in a cleanly state.

Under the Housing & Town Planning Act 105 houses have been inspected. Defects were found in 35 houses consisting of insufficient light, air and ventilation, plaster off the walls, defective roofs, floors, staircases, and insanitary backyards.

No closing orders have been necessary, but 16 of the houses have been put into a fit state for human habitation, and the remaining 19 houses are now being dealt with.

29 houses have been erected in the district during the year.

Several new streets have been formed, sewered and paved, and some of the main streets repaved.

I consider the deathrate to be exceedingly low for a manufacturing district, and will bear favourable comparison with most other Lancashire Towns and Urban Districts.

In conclusion, I congratulate you on the satisfactory sanitary condition, and I earnestly thank you for the encouragement and support which you have always given me.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PATCHETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

GREAT HARWOOD,
23rd February, 1914.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Great Harwood Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1913.

NUISANCES.

During the year 489 Nuisances have been dealt with and 32 preliminary notices have been issued calling for the abatement of the same. The remainder have been remedied by verbal requests.

The Nuisances consisted of the following, viz :

Blocked Water Closets and Drains	426
Defective Slopwaste Pipes	8
Broken Tippers belonging to Waste Water Closets	16
Houses in a Filthy Condition...	2
Accumulations of Refuse...	6
Dirty Closets and Closet Areas	4
Blocked Street Gullies	9
Defective Ashbins	18
	489

Improvements have been carried out in connection with the Closets at the following houses :

17 Edge End	1	Waste Water Closet	
18 „	1	„	
41 Clayton Street ...	1	Fresh Water Closet	Conversion from Earthenware Tank
43 „ ...	1	„	
45 „ ...	1	„	
73 „ ...	1	„	
75 „ ...	1	„	
Westlands...	1	„	Conversion from Waste Water Closets.
65 Queen Street ...	1	„	
67 „ ...	1	„	
	10		

Legal Notices were served last year to carry out Sanitary works, of which have been complied with, the remainder, which relate to the covering of ashpits, &c., and reflagging of back yards will be completed during this year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Below I give a statement of the present Closet Accommodation in the district.

Pail Closets (out districts)	36
Earthenware Tanks	120
Fresh Water Closets	381
Waste Water Closets	2663
Total ...	3200

It is the intention of the Council to abolish the existing 120 Earthenware Tanks as early as circumstances will permit.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 72 cases of Infectious Disease have been notified, viz: Scarlet Fever, 35; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, 12; Enteric Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 5; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 15; Other Tuberculous Diseases, 2; and Puerperal Fever, 1.

The cases were investigated and the particulars relating thereto were obtained and in due course reported to the Medical Officer of Health.

The drains and general surroundings were examined and any nuisances found dealt with immediately.

Disinfectants were supplied, verbal and printed instructions given as to isolation of patient, use of disinfectants, absence of children from schools, &c.

After the patient had recovered, the rooms, bedding, &c., were disinfected to the best advantage as circumstances would permit.

62 houses were so treated during the year.

"HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ACT."

105 houses have been inspected during the year in the following streets :—St. Edmund Street, Princess Street, Cliffe, Cliffe Square and Lowerfold.

Defects were found in 35 of the houses which consisted of defective back-yard flagging dampness caused through defective slates and troughing, plaster off the walls, defective bedroom floors and staircases.

It has not been necessary to serve any legal notices.

Defects at 16 houses have been remedied, and the remaining 19 are now being dealt with.

The Local Government Board are pressing Inspectors throughout the country to carry out their duties under this Act, and in order to fill up the statistics required by them, more of my time will have to be devoted to this work during the year.

In my opinion more houses are required in the district, especially for persons employed here, but who are now residing in adjoining Townships on account of the shortage of houses.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Factories and Workshops have been kept under supervision, and the Sanitary conditions are in compliance with the laws relating thereto.

The following is a detailed list of Factories and Workshops on the register.

Cotton Weaving and Spinning Mills	22
Clog Makers	12
Bakers and Confectioner	18
Dressmakers and Milliners	12
Tailors	6
Wheelwrights	2
Tripe Boilers	3
Plumbers	3
Blacksmiths	2
Harness Makers...	1
Rag Sorters	1
Monumental Masons	1
Printers	3
Total ...	86

BLACK SMOKE.

18 observations were taken, and the stokers at some of the mills have been cautioned, but it has not been deemed necessary to take any action.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The Slaughterhouses are under constant supervision. After slaughter, offal is placed in galvanised iron receptacles and removed immediately by the Council's workmen.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following have been rejected as being unfit for human food, and with the consent of the owners, destroyed.

	Disease or Other Cause.	Weight in lbs.
3 Carcases of Beef	Tuberculosis	1640
1 Quarter of Beef	,,	170
1 Carcase of Mutton	Suffocation	70
4 Cows' Livers...	Abscesses.	32
	Total ...	1912

LODGING HOUSES

6 visits have been made at the Lodging House in Delph Road (for men only) and it has generally been found fairly satisfactory.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The farms have received attention during the year, and the limewashing of shippons, &c., attended to.

The attention of the Estate Agent has been called to two Shippons which were found on inspection to be badly lighted and insufficiently ventilated.

GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS.

The Urinals have been regularly cleansed and disinfectant fluid freely used.

Fish refuse, &c., is collected from green-grocers shops five days per week, between 7 and 8-30 a.m.

The Public Market has been regularly cleansed.

SCAVENGING AND NIGHTSOIL.

The staff in this department consists of eight labourers and four horsemen.

The majority of the receptacles for house refuse are built of brick and stone and provided with proper doors and coverings.

We have also about 670 dustbins, and this system continues to grow, and no doubt is the most sanitary.

The principal streets are swept two and three times weekly throughout the year, and the bye streets once.

912 loads of water have been used for street watering.

We have 36 Pail Closets in the out districts and these are emptied weekly.

During the year the following number of loads of house refuse, &c., have been removed to the Council's tip :—

Ashes and Gulley Refuse	3772
Nightsoil	228
Street Sweepings	775
Shop Refuse	482
Total ...	5257 loads.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I have to thank you for the support you have given me during the year in all sanitary matters.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALBERT EDDLESTON,

Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole of Great Harwood during 1913 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett.						Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages	
			No.	Rate	No.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	No.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	No.	Rate
1908	13500		300	22·2	171	12·6		7	39	130	178	13·1
1909	14000		297	21·2	138	9·8		11	23	77·1	149	10·6
1910	14000		268	19·14	128	9·14		19	29	111·53	147	10·5
1911	13815		234	16·9	156	11·29	2	12	30	128	168	12·15
1912	14000		307	21·9	151	10·78	5	9	16	52·11	155	11
1913	14000		267	19	153	10·92	1	16	26	97·37	169	12

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 2868.

Total population at all ages, 13,815.
Number of inhabited houses, 3,100.
Average number of persons per house, 4·5.
} At Census, 1911 (cf. Census, Vol. V.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913, in Great Harwood District.

TABLE II.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.							
	At all Ages	At ages—years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards.
Smallpox ...								
Cholera ...								
Plague								
Diphtheria including Membranous Croup ...	12		6	4		2		
Erysipelas ...	5				1	1	2	1
Scarlet Fever	35		6	27	1	1		
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever	2					1	1	
Relapsing Fever								
Continued Fever								
Puerperal Fever	1					1		
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis								
Poliomyelitis								
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15			2	6	5	2	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1		1				
Totals...	72	1	12	34	8	11	5	1

Isolation Hospital—Nil.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the year 1913, in Great Harwood District.

Causes or Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occuring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
All causes { Certified / Uncertified	169	26	6	6	6	6	20	49	50	153
Enteric Fever										
Small-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever	1			1						1
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria & Croup	2		1	1						2
Influenza	3								3	3
Erysipelas										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculous)	9				1	2	5	1		8
Tuberculous Meningitis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	2		1				2		4
Cancer, malignant disease	13						2	7	4	12
Rheumatic Fever										
Meningitis	5	2	1		1			1		5
Organic Heart Disease	17		1				1	11	4	15
Bronchitis	11	2						2	7	10
Pneumonia (all forms)	24	3	2	1		2	3	10	3	23
Other diseases of respiratory organs										
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	4	2					1		1	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2						2			2
Cirrhosis of Liver										
Alcoholism	1						1			1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	3							3		3
Puerperal Fever	1						1			1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition										
Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth	9	9								9
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	1			1						1
Suicide										
Other Defined Diseases	58	6	1	1	4	2	4	12	28	49
Diseases ill-defined or unknown										
TOTALS	169	26	6	6	6	6	20	49	50	153
Sub-Entries included in above figures: Pneumonia	12	2	1	1		2	1	3	2	11
Sub-Entries included in above figures: Illegal Operation	1					1				

TABLE IV.

Great Harwood District.

Infant Mortality during the year 1913.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12m'nths	Total Death under 1 year.
All causes { Certified / Uncertified	8	4	1		13	3	5	3	2	26
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever...										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria and Croup ...										
Erysipelas and Croup ...										
Tuberculous Meningitis ...										
Abdominal Tubercolosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Convulsions	..	...	...	.	...	...	1	...	...	1
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis	..	...	..	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	...	...	...	.	...	1	...	1	1	3
Diarrhœa	.	.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Gastritis										
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Suffocation, overlaying ...										
Injury at Birth										
Atelectasis										
Congenital Malformations Premature Birth	7	1	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	1	..	1	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes	1	3	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	5
	8	4	1		13	3	5	3	2	26

Nett Births in the Year { Legitimate 259. / Illegitimate 8.

Nett Deaths in the year of { Legitimate infants...26. / Illegitimate infants.. nil.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the year 1913, for the Urban District of Great Harwood, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act. 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	26	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	78	9	Nil.
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total..	104	9	Nil.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu-tions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	9	9	Nil.	Nil.
Other Nuisances	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total...	9	9	Nil.	Nil.

Sec. 22 P. H. Act, 1890 has been adopted, The Standard referred to at pages 622-3 Lumbley's P. H. Act, 1875, has been followed.

4—Registered Workshops.

Total Number of Workshops on Register...61.